

IN THE DRAWINGS:

A Letter to the Official Draftsman is attached with proposed drawing corrections to Figures 6A, 12 and 17A.

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 6A, 12 and 17A. These sheets, which include Figs. 5, 6, 6A, 11, 12, 16, 17 and 17A, replace the original sheets of Figs. 5, 6, 6A, 11, 12, 16, 17 and 17A.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) and 1.84(h)(4). The disclosure in the specification was objected to because it did not contain any headings. Claims 1-6 and 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-6 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hewlett, in U.S. Patent No. 2,107,608. The Examiner indicated that he would allow claims 12-14 if they were rewritten in independent form.

With reference to paragraph 3 of the Office Action, please note that Figure 1 does show the “container or casing 5” (page 4, line 21 of the specification) and the container clearly is mounted on a camping accommodation. Further, Figures 12, 13 and 14 all do show a casing in mounted condition. Please note that “container” and “casing” are both used to indicate one and the same item, as is clear from page 4, line 21 of the specification. An open position of the container is shown in figure 7 (hinged lid 70 is clearly in open position), figure 15 (see page 11, lines 5-8), figure 17 (page 12, lines 15, 16; flaps 82, 83) and figure 20 (lid 70).

To have the mounted and open positions shown in the figures of the elected species, figure 12 has been amended to show, in broken lines, an open position of strips 42, 43 of a casing for an awning construction.

With reference to paragraphs 5-7 of the Office Action, claim 1 has been amended to further define the present invention.

With reference to paragraph 9 of the Office Action, Hewlett discloses a contractible tent or awning for use in connection with automobile trailers. Such a trailer is provided with casing means forming a horizontal recess and two vertical recesses.

In Hewlett's construction however, the vertical recesses do not receive vertical sidewalls of the tent or awning. In Hewlett's construction, the vertical recesses contain operating shafts 24, 32 for a horizontal roller 10 in the horizontal recess. The vertical recesses further contain vertical screw rod member 20 engaging slide members 19, which in turn carry arms 17 of a U-shaped tent frame 17, 16, 17, carrying the tent. Please note that the tent has a roof 13, an outer section 14 and flaps 15 (Hewlett page 1, right hand column, lines 9-23). The outer section 14 is the front wall of the tent and the flaps 15 are the sidewalls, as may best be seen in figures 6 and 8.

In order to store the tent, the flaps 15 are first folded on the roof 13. Thereafter the front wall 14 is folded back on top of flaps 15 and roof 13, and is fastened by buttons, snaps or the like indicated at 14'. Please refer to page 2 right hand column, lines 26-32. The roof 13, flaps 15 and section 14 are wound together on the

horizontal roller 10. The vertical parts of the tent, constituted by the flaps 15, are not stored in the vertical parts of the casing means.

The present invention addresses the problem of having to insert the beading (or welt) at the edge of the tent cloth of a tent having a roof and at least one vertical sidewall into a caravan rail (also called awning rail, or trailer molding, or canvas receiving rail) which too has a horizontal section and at least one vertical section connected by a bend.

Please refer to page 1, third paragraph of the specification. The present invention is based on the idea that a vertical part of a tent or awning need not be folded into a horizontal position but may be folded and/or wound in a vertical position on itself or on a suitable vertical roller section in the casing simultaneously with folding and/or winding the horizontal part (the roof) in a horizontal position on itself or on a horizontal roller.

This basic idea apparently has not been made sufficiently clear in the claims for the Examiner to appreciate its merits. The Examiner rather has focused on the various embodiments of the casing disclosed in the specification by way of example only. It is true that in the introduction of the specification prior art comprising a caravan rail having a horizontal section and two vertical sections connected by bent sections to the horizontal section was deemed to be known. However, the Examiner

has cited quite different prior art and in the light of that prior art the original starting point of the present invention may have become somewhat clouded.

Still, apart from the third paragraph on page 1 of the specification, also page 12, second paragraph, page 12 last paragraph and page 13, second paragraph clearly refer to a casing having a horizontal section and at least one vertical section connected to said horizontal section, as well as a tent having a horizontal part (the roof) and at least one vertical part (a sidewall) to be stored in the horizontal section and vertical section respectively of the casing.

Amended claim 1 specifies the awning having a substantially horizontal part and at least one substantially vertical part, the at least one substantially vertical part being connected to said horizontal part, the container having a substantially horizontal section and at least one substantially vertical section, the at least substantially vertical section being connected to one end of the horizontal section, the horizontal section receiving the horizontal part and the at least one vertical section receiving the at least one vertical part, and means for holding an edge of the tent cloth of the awning being provided in both the horizontal section and the at least one vertical section.

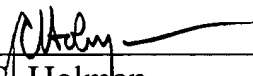
In view of the amendments to claim 1, the claims are distinguished from Hewlett. New claims 30 and 31 place the allowable subject matter of dependent claims 12 and 13 in independent form.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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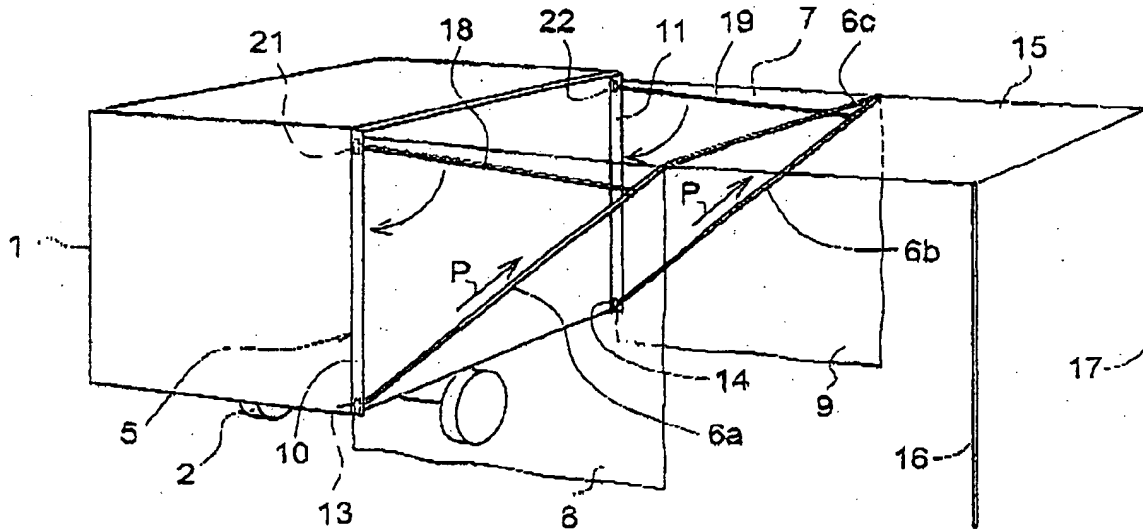


Fig. 5

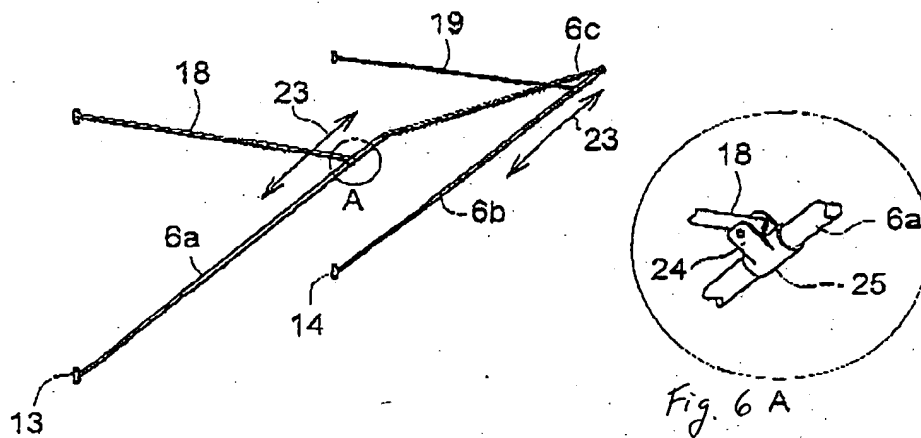


Fig. 6

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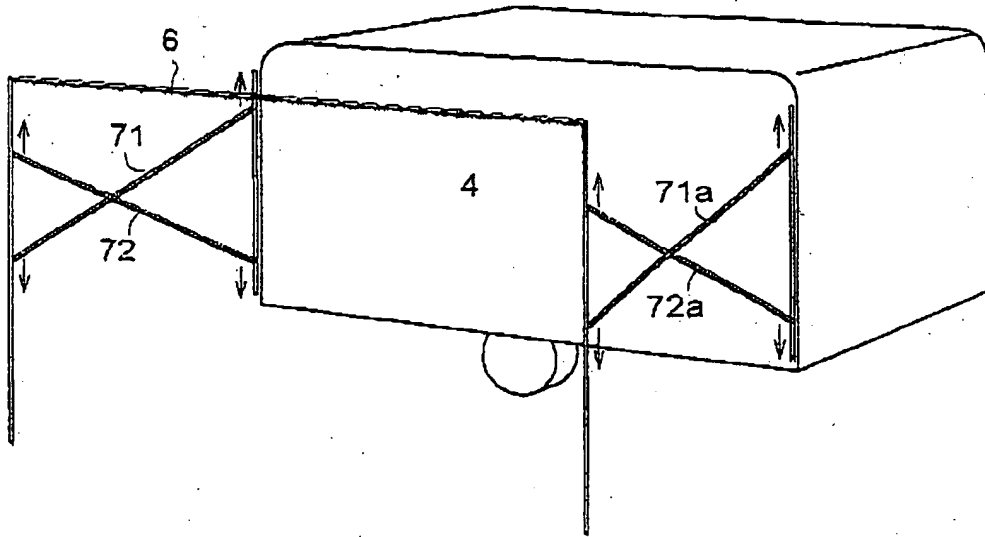


Fig. 11

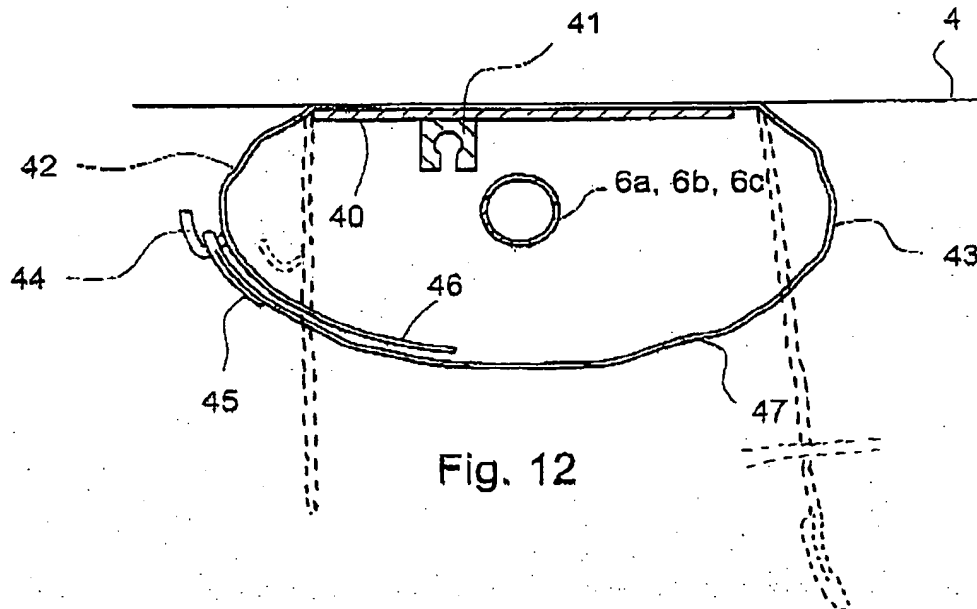


Fig. 12

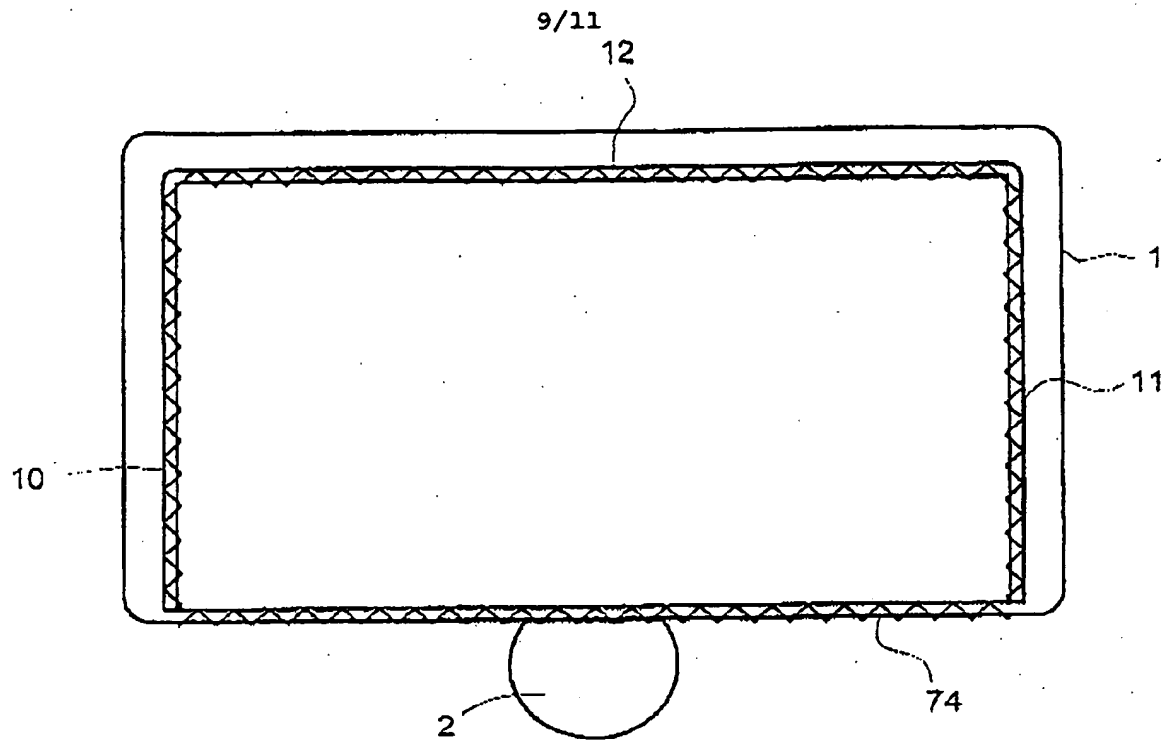


Fig. 16

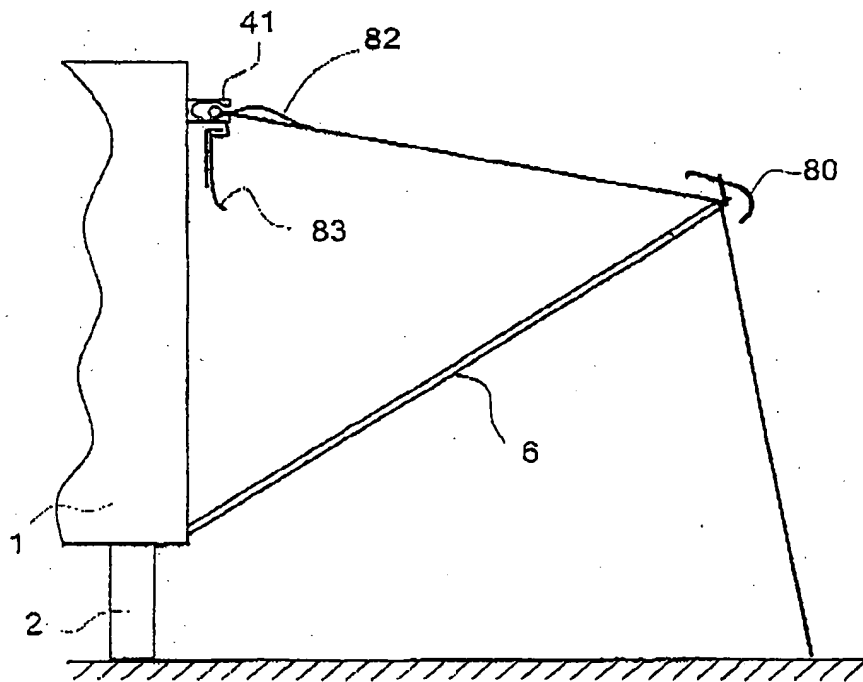
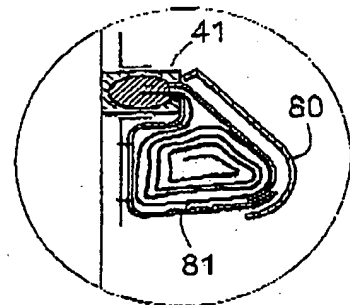


Fig. 17



Detail A

Fig. 17A